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the production area hereby established as follows:

District No. 1. Accomack County in the State of Virginia.

District No. 2. Northampton County in the State of Virginia.

District No. 3. James City and Nansemond Counties and the cities of Chesapeake and Virginia Beach in the State of Virginia.

District No. 4. Northampton, Gates, Hertford, Bertie, Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Currituck, and Camden Counties in the State of North Carolina.

District No. 5. Halifax, Nash, Edgecombe, Pitt, Lenoir, Jones, Onslow, Carteret, Pamlico, Craven, Beaufort, Martin, Washington, Tyrrell, Hyde, and Dare in the State of North Carolina.

[33 FR 8503, June 8, 1968]

§ 953.12 Reapportionment and redistricting.

The committee may recommend, and pursuant thereto, the Secretary may approve, the reapportionment of members among districts, and the reestablishment of districts within the production area. With respect to any such changes, the committee and the Secretary shall give consideration to:

(a) Shifts in potato acreage within the districts and within the production area during recent years;

(b) The importance of new production in its relation to existing districts;

(c) The equitable relationship of committee membership and districts;

(d) Economies to result for producers in promoting efficient administration due to redistricting or reapportionment of members within districts; and

(e) Other relevant factors.

[33 FR 8503, June 8, 1968]

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

§ 953.15 Establishment and membership.

(a) The Southeastern Potato Committee, consisting of 12 members of whom seven shall be producers and five shall be handlers is hereby established. For each member of the committee, there shall be an alternate member, who shall have the same qualifications as the member.

(b) Persons selected as members or alternates of the committee shall be individuals who are producers or handlers, respectively, in the respective

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district for which selected, or officers or employees of a corporate producer or handler, respectively, in such district: *Provided*, That no person, if he handles potatoes, shall be eligible for selection as a producer member on said committee unless 51 percent or more of the potatoes handled by him during the then current fiscal year were of his own production, or unless such person is an officer or employee of a producer's cooperative marketing association.

[19 FR 8683, Dec. 18, 1954, as amended at 33 FR 8503, June 8, 1968]

§ 953.16 Term of office.

(a) The term of office for committee members and alternates shall, except as otherwise specified, be for 1 year. The dates on which such term of office shall begin and end shall be established by the Secretary pursuant to the committee's recommendations, and the term of office may be extended or shortened, including that of the then current membership, to accord therewith.

(b) Committee members and alternates shall serve during the term of office for which they are selected and have qualified, or during that portion thereof, beginning on the date on which they qualify during such term of office and continuing until the end thereof, and until their successors are selected and have qualified.

[33 FR 8503, June 8, 1968]

§ 953.18 Nominations.

The Secretary may select members of the committee and alternates from nominations which may be made in the following manner:

(a) A meeting or meetings of producers and handlers shall be held by the committee for each district to designate nominees for members and alternates to the committee;

(b) At least one nominee shall be designated for each position as member and for each position as alternate member on the committee;

(c) The names of nominees shall be supplied to the Secretary in such manner and form as he may prescribe, not later than September 15 of each year,

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or by such other date as may be specified by the Secretary;

(d) Only producers may participate in designating producer nominees and only handlers may participate in designating handler nominees. Any person who operates in more than one district or is engaged in producing and handling potatoes, shall elect the classification (i.e., producer or handler), and the district within which he desires to participate in designating nominees;

(e) Regardless of the number of districts in which a person produces or handles potatoes, each such person is entitled to cast only one vote on behalf of himself, his agents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and representatives in designating nominees for committee members and alternates. An eligible voter's privilege of casting only one vote as aforesaid shall be construed to permit a voter to cast one vote for each position to be filled in the district in which he elects to vote.

[33 FR 8503, June 8, 1968]

§ 953.19 Selection.

(a) The Secretary shall select one producer member in and for each of Districts 1, 2, and 3, and two producer members in and for each of Districts 4 and 5 from nominees submitted pursuant to § 953.18 or from other eligible persons. In addition, he shall similarly select one handler member from each district. The respective alternates shall be selected on the same basis of representation as the members.

(b) The term of office of the committee members and alternates for District No. 6 shall be terminated upon deletion of such district from the production area.

(c) For the 1968-69 term of office the second producer member and his alternate for each of Districts No. 4 and 5 shall be selected as soon as practicable after deletion of District No. 6 from the production area. Nomination meetings shall be held for these positions pursuant to § 953.18 and the selections shall be made pursuant to this section for the remainder of the 1968-69 term of office.

[33 FR 8504, June 8, 1968]

§ 953.20 Failure to nominate.

If nominations are not made within the time and in the manner specified by the Secretary pursuant to § 953.18, the Secretary may, without regard to nominations, select the members and alternate members of the committee, which selection shall be on the basis of the representation provided for in § 953.19.

§ 953.21 Acceptance.

Any person selected by the Secretary as a member or as an alternate member of the committee shall qualify by filing a written acceptance with the Secretary within the time specified by the Secretary.

[33 FR 8504, June 8, 1968]

§ 953.22 Vacancies.

To fill any vacancy occasioned by the failure of any person selected as a member or as an alternate member of the committee to qualify, or in the event of the death, removal, resignation, or disqualification of any qualified member or alternate member, a successor for his unexpired term may be selected by the Secretary from nominations made in the manner specified in § 953.18, or the Secretary may select such member or alternate member from previously unselected nominees on the current nominee list from the district involved. If the names of nominees to fill any such vacancy are not made available to the Secretary within 30 days after such vacancy occurs, the Secretary may fill such vacancy without regard to nominations, which selection shall be made on the basis of the representation provided for in § 953.19.

§ 953.23 Alternate members.

An alternate member of the committee shall act in the place and stead of the member for whom he is alternate during such member's absence. In the event of death, removal, resignation, or disqualification of a member, his alternate shall act for him until a successor for the unexpired term of such member is selected and has qualified.